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F A C S I M I L E C O V E R S H E E T

TO: Art Unit 1645

Examiner: Richard D. Hutson, Ph.D.

CLIENT NAME/NUMBER: 22201_UT

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FROM: Enrique G. Estevez

DATE: September 8, 2003

NUMBER OF PAGES (INCLUDING COVER SHEET): 16

COMMENTS/INSTRUCTIONS:

Attached is the following:

1. Amendment and Response to Office Action for:

Patent application of:

Michael Blaber, et al.

Serial No.

10/037,633

Filing Date:

January 3, 2002

Title: Synthetic Nucleic Acid Sequences For 2,5-Diketo-D-Gluconic Acid Reductases
And Associated Methods

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:)
MICHAEL BLABER ET AL.)
)
Serial No. **10/037,633**)
)
Filing Date: **January 3, 2002**)
)
For: **SYNTHETIC NUCLEIC ACID**)
SEQUENCES FOR 2,5-DIKETO-D-)
GLUCONIC ACID REDUCTASES)
AND ASSOCIATED METHODS)
_____)

Examiner: Richard Hutson, Ph.D.

Art Unit: 1652

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Honorable Commissioner of
Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed on April 8, 2003, please amend the above application as follows. The amendments set forth below include no new matter. A Petition for a Two Month Extension of Time is enclosed with authorization to charge the fee therefor. Also enclosed is a declaration under 37 CFR 1.132 by co-inventor Dr. Michael Blaber.

Applicants acknowledge withdrawal from consideration by the Examiner of claims 19-37 and 49-52 as drawn to a non-elected invention. Claims 1-18 and 40-43 remain at issue.